

December 2011 Weather in Review

The trend of more frequent rainfall events in November, increased in December 2011 bringing more rain than usual to most locations for December. December 2011 was the first month in 2011 since January at Austin and at San Antonio, and since July at Del Rio, where the monthly rain was above normal. The 4.93 inches at Austin Mabry was the 18th wettest December in 155 years since 1856, while 4.89 inches at Austin Bergstrom was the 7th wettest December in 68 years since 1943. The 2.84 inches at San Antonio came in as the 23rd wettest December. Rainfall amounts decreased to an inch or less over the west part of South Central Texas. Del Rio had just less than 1 inch of rain, with 0.98 inches, compared to the December 30 Year 1981 to 2010 average of 0.65 inches. December 2011 rain was not enough to overcome the rainfall deficits for 2011. 2011 was the 11th driest calendar year in 155 years at Austin Mabry since 1856 with 19.68 inches, 14.56 inches below normal; the 6th driest at Austin Bergstrom in 68 years since 1943, with 16.90 inches, 15.25 inches below normal; the 12th driest at Del Rio in 105 years since 1906, with 9.92 inches of rain, 9.60 inches below normal; and the 14th driest calendar year at San Antonio in 140 years since 1871, with 17.58 inches of rain, 14.69 inches below normal.

More cloudy days than usual came from December 2nd to the 25th, with only brief periods of partly cloudy to mostly sunny days. The month transitioned to sunnier days and drier weather from the mid to late morning of the 26th to the 31st, as the storm track moved north and northeast. Several freezes came in early December, and then extremes in temperature moderated as more overrunning cloudiness persisted. Extremes in temperature increased again in late December with drier weather. More cloudiness in the month helped to make the average daily high for all of December cooler than usual and average low slightly above normal. This changed with more sunny days at the end of the month, from the 26th to the 31st. From the 27th to the 31st daily highs were warmer than usual. The coldest day of the month came the 7th, when lows were in the 20s. The low of 23 at Del Rio on December 7th was a record daily low at Del Rio for the 7th. The low of 23 at Austin Bergstrom December 8th was a record daily low at Austin Bergstrom. The warmest days came on the 1st, 3rd, 14th, 30th and 31st. The highs of 79 at Austin Mabry and Burnet, and 77 at Austin Bergstrom on the 31st, were the warmest days of the month at those locations. At Del Rio the high of 76 tied with December 3rd and 30th for the warmest December day.

From October 2010 to December 2011 at Austin and San Antonio, January 2011 and December 2011 were the only month with monthly rainfall above normal, while at Del Rio since October 2010, August and December 2011 were the only months with monthly rainfall greater than normal. The list below shows the amount of rain in December 2011 and for the year, the latest 30 Year 1981 to 2010 Normal rain, and the 2011 rainfall ranking among the driest calendar years.

Location	Dec. 2011 Rainfall	1981-2010 Dec. Normal	2011 Rain Jan.-Dec.	1981-2010 Yr. Normal	2011 Rainfall Rank
Austin Bergstrom	4.89	2.25	16.90	32.15	7th driest Year 1943 -2011
Austin Mabry	4.93	2.40	19.68	34.24	11th driest Year 1856-2011
Del Rio	0.98	0.65	9.92	19.52	12th driest Year 1906-2011
San Antonio	2.84	1.91	17.58	32.27	14th driest Year 1871-2011

December 2011 Summary

Location	Average Temperature	Average High	Average Low	Warmest/Coollest	Rainfall
Austin Mabry	52.2 -0.3	60.8 -1.9	43.6 +1.3	79 on 31st 27 on 7th	4.93 +2.53
Austin Bergstrom	51.4 +1.0	61.1 -2.5	41.6 +4.4	77 on 31st 22 on 7th	4.89 +2.64
Burnet	49.6 +0.8	58.5 -1.1	40.7 +2.6	79 on 31st 22 on 7th	2.37 +0.36
Del Rio	50.2 -2.2	59.6 -4.4	40.7 -0.1	76 on 3rd, 30th and 31st 23 on 7th	0.98 +0.33
Hondo	53.0 +1.1	63.4 -0.8	42.7 +3.0	79 on 3rd and 30th 22 on 7th	2.10 +0.96
New Braunfels	52.0 -0.3	61.3 -2.5	42.7 +1.9	77 on 1st 24 on 7th	4.71 +2.44
San Antonio International Airport	53.8 +0.9	63.1 -0.9	44.6 +2.9	79 on 1st 27 on 7th	2.84 +0.93
San Antonio Stinson	54.6 +1.7	64.0 -0.2	45.2 +3.7	80 on 1st 26 on 7th	1.75 -0.13

[Click Here](#) to see more details on December 2011 weather.

The revised outlook for January 2012 from the Climate Prediction Center issued December 31 for South Central Texas calls for the average monthly temperature for January 2012 to have a 33.3 to 40 percent chance of being warmer than normal; a 33.3 percent chance of near normal; and a 26.7 to 33.3 percent chance of cooler than normal temperatures for January. The outlook for rain in January 2012 showed a 33.3 to 40 percent chance of being drier than usual; a 33.3 percent chance of near normal rainfall; and a 26.7 to 33.3 percent chance of wetter than normal rain for January 2012. The 90 Day Outlook from January 2012 to March 2012 shows a 50 percent Chance of being warmer than usual from January to March; a 33.3 percent chance of being near normal; and a 16.7 percent chance of being cooler than normal. The January 2012 to March 2012 90 Day rainfall outlook over South Central Texas shows a 40 to 50 percent chance of being drier than usual from January to March; a 33.3 percent chance of near normal rain; and a 16.7 to 26.7 percent chance of above normal rain. [Click Here to See the Latest One Month Outlook from the Climate Prediction Center.](#) The table below lists information on Climate Normals for the month of January for Austin, Del Rio and San Antonio.

January Climate Information Referencing 1981 to 2010 Normals

Location	Normal Monthly Temp.	Normal High	Normal Low	All time High	All time Low	Normal Rainfall	All Time Driest	All Time Wettest
Austin/Mabry	51.5	61.5	41.5	90	-2	2.22	0	9.21
Austin/Bergstrom	49.2	62.1	36.3	89	-5	2.23	0.02	10.53
Del Rio	52.2	63.8	40.6	92	12	0.72	Trace	4.12
San Antonio	51.8	62.9	40.7	89	0	1.76	Trace	8.52